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## New twist in Florida trial as jury given manslaughter option

MIAMI (AFP) - The trial of a neighborhood watch volunteer accused of murdering a black teenager took a fresh twist on Thursday after jurors were told they could convict him of the lesser charge of manslaughter.

Hispanic defendant George Zimmerman faces possible life in prison if convicted of second degree murder in the shooting death of unarmed teen Trayvon Martin in February last year.

But as closing arguments in the racially charged trial began on Thursday, Judge Debra Nelson gave jury members another option, saying they could convict Zimmerman, 29, of the lesser charge of manslaughter, if they are unconvinced that the evidence proves he is guilty of he murder.

"A teenager is dead through no fault of his own, dead because a man made assumptions and acted on them, unfortunately, because his assumptions are wrong, Trayvon Benjamin Martin no longer walks on the earth," prosecutor Bernie de la Rionda told jurors in his closing arguments.

"He profiled him as a criminal. He assumed certain things -- that Trayvon Martin was up to no good. And that's what led to his death."

Zimmerman's attorneys protested the judge's decision to allow jurors to consider lesser charges, saying the jury's should be given a clear choice -- either conviction for murder of acquittal.

Continued on pg 6



Winner of the Albertina Perez de Rosa Information Units Alliances and Collaborative Projects in the Caribbean Award

## Aruba's National Library taking an international leadership position in sustainability programs



Ronny Alders and Astrid Britten with the Albertina Perez de Rosa Award from ACURIL

The Director of Aruba's National Library, (BNA) Astrid Britten and Assistant Director. Ronald Alders, returned recently from the 132nd American Library Association (ALA) annual congress in Chicago, Illinois from June 27 to July 2. It is the first time in Aruba's history that a delegation from the island's national library has attended this huge event, not only as representatives of the island, but also as presenters of what is considered a ground-breaking model of community involvement, expanding the role of libraries everywhere.

Ms. Britten and Mr. Alders were accompanied by the Director of the Philipsburg, St. Maarten Jubilee Library. Drs. Monique Alberts, who is also President of the Dutch Caribbean Library Association (DCLA) and Drs. Geert Kooistra, a strategic and spa-

tial planner and process designer at Planosfeer, in Breda, Holland

The trip to Chicago was the second leg of the journey for Ms. Britten and Mr. Alders in connecting and networking with the international community of librarians. The first
stop was the annual conference of Association of
Caribbean University, Research and Institutional Libraries (ACURIL) in Puerto
Rico, of which the BNA is an
active member. Ms. Britten
served as a past president and
is now a member of the executive board.

At this year's ACURIL Congress, BNA was presented with the prestigious Albertina Pérez de Rosa Information Units Alliances and Collaborative Projects in the Caribbean for their innovative "National Library of Aruba goes Green Project" This lent weight to their presentation at ALA as part of the Sustainability Round of the Environment and International Responsibilities Task Force "How the Dutch Caribbean Goes Green with Libraries and Other Supporters."

The panel presentation and subsequent discussion at this year's ALA was sponsored by the International Responsibilities Task Force of ALA's Social Responsibilities Round Table Fred Stoss, of the University at Buffalo and a past-coordinator of SRRT, served as moderator.

Continued on pg 2

## Government signs contract for 2nd phase Linear Park



Prime Minister Mike Eman signing the contract in presence of contractor Deams of Arubaanse Wegenbouw (See story on pg 3)



## Aruba's National Library taking an international leadership...

Continued from pg 1



The Aruba presentation team

"The concept of sustainabil- scriptive analysis of the roles ity in regards to a small nation's library goes well beyond "green energy" practices," commented BNA Director Britten. "Modern communication technology and the Internet forces libranes to re-examine and redesign their role within the community to continue to be relevant."

This dilemma was discussed by Drs. Kooistra in opening their seminar at the ALA by providing "a de-

"The greatest glory in living lies not in never failing, but in rising every time we fail."

- Nelson Mandela

librarians must play in dealing with a variety of conditions in a rapidly changing world, and acknowledged the need for libraries to transform themselves, as they show early signs of "obsolescence." He proposed an enlightened and expanded concept of the "neo-library" as a highly specialized platform for integrating information resources sharing as well as a "critical component of a cogent collaboration of a community engagement process"

Dr. Kooistra observed, "The library could be the place to turn to for (local) governments and other stakeholders (e.g. housing corporations and real estate developers) when seeking interaction with the community. They will maintain their function as guardians of cultural capital and knowledge. But beside that, they could become active hubs of information and knowledge exchange, involved education, awareness and public collaboration programs."

Drs. Alberts described the very tangible green energy process of bringing a ten kilowatt solar panel array to her Philipsburg library, a step the BNA would very much like to emulate, but is held back due to lack of funding. The St. Maarten installation is among the first steps in the greening' of their energy consumption. The library's "expertise and experiences facilitating this installation serves as a model for future projects for schools and public buildings" for the Dutch Caribbean.

Aruba's National Library has instead taken an active role in educating the community, particularly the youth, the "next generation," to understand, appreciate and "get on board," with the sustainability plan for Aruba that is the declared policy of the current government. Mr. Alders is Coordinator of the National Library's Green Education Symposium, of which they have at present hosted two such events, and are now planning a third for 2014. This program supports Aruba's annual Green Aruba Conference, and the establishment of the Caribbean Energy, Environment and Sustainability Education program. The Green Education Symposium Aruba II, in 2013, became a reality due to partnership "Green's'Cool" program, a collaborative effort of Elmar, Aruba's energy distribution administrator, SETAR N.V., the national telecommunications company, W.E.B. N.V, the water and power plant, Santa Rosa center of animal husbandry and agriculture, and Utilities Aruba N.V, administrating over energy projects. The 2014 symposium will focus on "Sustainable Food Supplies" in cooperation with Santa Rosa cen-

The concept of libraries being a motivating force in the education of the public and the instigation of green energy policies beyond their premises, "was absolutely startling and eye-opening for those that attended our panel discussion," recounts Mr. Alders. "A very few were from the region, but most were from the U.S., and they were very excited by our presentations. It certainly sparked some ideas of how their libraries can become more involved and essential to their communities." Executive Secretary of ACURIL, Dr. Luisa Vigo Cepeda, who attended this panel discussion, made a public pronouncement asking the BNA team to take the lead-agency role for guiding ACURIL's new environmental section.

"Libraries everywhere are looking to established policies and programs that keep them a viable part of the system. We found our symposiums received excellent attention and cooperation from important ministers, including Prime Minister

Eman, who was a guest speaker, as well as financial support from the entities who are most involved with green policies. It was the response, however, from the thousands of students attending, and their teachers, which reinforced our belief in their concern. They made it clear how important they found these symposiums to their understanding of green energy policies. The youth want to know how they will affect them, and how they can improve their future."

The BNA is no stranger to awards from ACURIL. This newest plaque joins two others they have won. The 2004 ACURIL congress recognized the BNA for their annual Children's Book Fair and Storytelling with the award for Distinction in Creativity and Development Award of Programs for Children. In 2007, they came home from the annual congress with the Reading Pleasand Intellectual Development Award from the ACURIL Publications and Public Relations Committee for Aruba's Elderly Storytelling Project.

By Rosalie Klein





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## Government signs contract for second phase of Linear Park

On Wednesday morning the government of Aruba signed the contract with contractor Daems of the Arubaanse Wegenbouw for the construction of the second phase of the Linear Park.

The first phase of the Linear Park begins at the roundabout near the Cas di Cultura up to the former governor's residence.

On Wednesday the contract for the second phase was signed. This second phase will go all the way up to the airport. According to the Prime Minister, it is going to be a beautiful area where people can walk under the shade of trees with a view of the ocean and at night there will be adequate illumination. The area has become a place



where people meet and socialize and use for physical activity.

The Prime Minister indicated that despite the obstacles, Minister of Tourism, Otmar Oduber, was able to get the project going and completed on time. He praised both Ministers Oduber and Minister Sievinger of Infrastructure for their roles in the project. He said that the fact that they are referring to phases is indicative that there is yet more to be done.

## The restoration of Monuments also provide a return on investment in our economy

According to Director of the Monument Bureau, Yvonne Webb, the restoration of historical buildings is not simply a matter of the beautification of a structure. The investment that the island is making in restoring our national architectural heritage also brings benefits not seen at first instance.

During a press conference at the site in Zoutmanstraat #1, the director and the company in charge of the renovation project of the former Archeological Museum, explained how the project was coming along. How they will be bringing the structure back to its former glory of more than 100 years ago.

Present were Aruba's Prime Minister Mike Eman and Minister of Infrastructure Benny Sievinger

The office in charge of the preservation of monuments has been working diligently ever since 1996 to restore eight projects including the Water Towers in Oranjestad and San Niolaas, as well as the old Court House building These have billed an investment of over 30 million Florins. According to Webb: "we are on the right track, even though there is still a lot to do." As long as the vision is there and the government lends their support, we can save our heritage."

According to Yvonne Webb, when we invest in a monument, many people see this as just putting lots of



money in an old building. There is a study done showing that for every Florin invested in a monument, indirectly Florin and 16 cents goes back to the economy. It contributes to employment, to tourism and to our national pride. You are actually doing something for the future generations.

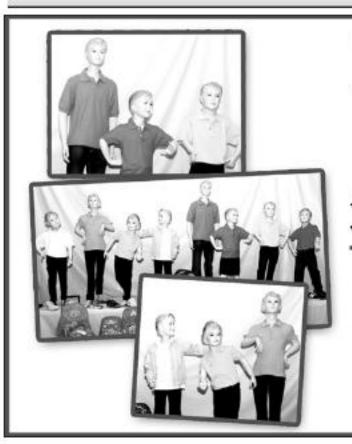
In the case of the Zoutman #1 site, this edifice is part of the Inner City

surrounding the Plaza Padu and closes the entire block of the City Hall complex and the Harbor Master Offices up to the Fort Zoutman and City



Hall complex.

Many are commenting on the positive effect of the entire beautification project in the down town and city center areas.



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## Red Sail Sports' Fundraiser Sunset Sail for Chloë Veronica, a big success





Palm Beach, Aruba — Red Sail Sports supported the Care For Friends Foundation for Chloë Veronica by organizing a Sunset Sail past Sunday, July 7. All proceeds went towards the foundation to help young Chloë Veronica. Participants were treated to a Sunset Sail including tropical cocktails, snacks catered by the Ostrich Farm and of course Aruba's beautiful Sunset.

"No question, we supported this great cause by donating a fully catered Sunset Sail on our biggest catamaran with a comfortable capacity of 100 persons", said Peter de Hoop, managing director of Red Sail Sports Aruba. "As being a member of the local community, it is important that we support and create awareness for children in special need, like Chloë. And I was proud to see that we set sail with a catamaran, full of supporters. Because of this we were able to hand the Care For Friends Foundation a cheque of AWG 3603,-"

The Sunset Sail was found to be an original way of fundraising and received very positive feedback from its participants.

Chloë Veronica has a long way to go and more donations will be necessary to help

More information can be found on the Care for Chloë Veronica facebook page.

Red Sail Sports offers daily Snorkel and Sunset Sails departing from their pier on Palm Beach. Visit www.redsail.com for more information.

## Club Kibrahacha 60+ awards winners of their annual raffle











Club Kıbrahacha óÜ+ Direc-

tor Diana Uchtmaan had the distinct pleasure of awarding the prizes for their fabulous annual raffle, which provides important funding for the social and activities center in Piedre Plat, for retirees. Over 200 elderly spend their days at the center Monday through Friday, taking classes in anything from Tai Chi to master-

ing the Internet, as well as enjoying important holidays with great events geared to their peer group.

Club Kibrahacha 60+ is also the pet project of Rotary Club of Aruba, which

originally donated the finances and founded the center, continuing to support it annually with their fundraising events.

The annual raffle raises substantial funds, with exciting prizes. This year Jose Kock was the lucky winner of the grand prize, a vacation cruise on Monarch of the Seas, sponsored by Maduro Travel, which provides the tickets to Club Kibrhacha at cost.

Maduro Travel aloso supplies the second and third prizes, a vacation with hotel, airfare and entrance tickets to Disneyworld in Orlando, Florida and a weekend at the elegant and historical Kura Hulanda Hotel in Curacao.

Ravi of Boolchand's was present to hand over a Lenovo laptop to lucky fourth prize winner Pearl Gromarty. Fifth prize was a giant flat screen TV donated by AMC Unicon. The offices of Dr. E. de Cuba went home with both the fifth and eighth place prizes, a weekend stay donated by Playa Linda Beach Resort and a dinner for two at Gianni's restaurant in Palm Beach. The seventh place prize of the fabulous Sunday Brunch at the Hyatt Regency Resort's Ruinas Del Mar was collected by the winner's son, who reports he is very much looking forward to sharing it with his mother, Emerita

Diana expressed her gratitude to all the sponsors who
donated the very attractive
prizes, helping the center to
continue their important
work. They are now celebrating 28 years of keeping
Aruba's elderly engaged and
involved while providing
them with many joyful moments of interaction and stimulating activities and events.

By Rosalie Klein



## BY HER HAND at the BELIZE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL **July 11 – July 15**



Rebecca Roos (pix by Aaron Hose)



Marifer Aguirre Broca (pix by Aaron Hose)

Not even recuperated from the extremely successful 4th edition of the Aruba International Film Festival, the festıval's Industry Events Director, Rebecca Roos is off to Belize where her own film BY HER HAND (2012) will

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be shown in selection during the 8th Belize International Film Festival

The primary goal of the Belize International Film Festival (BIFF) is to provide a space for the exhibition of films from Belize and its neighboring regions of the Caribbean, Central America and Southern Mexico so that these audiences can see their images onscreen and be motivated to create more.

As a multicultural society BIFF is interested in promoting cultural tolerance and welcome international features and documentaries that depict the interaction of culalready being impacted by by Urvin Robert)

Climate Change, BIFF also welcomes international features and documentaries that discuss the way forward thru social change and the implementation of green technolo-

Producer/director Rebecca Roos is very proud the film has been invited to this fast growing festival, and happy to be able to visit the festival, representing her film and the island of Aruba, thanks to the financial aid of Prins Bernhard Cultuurfonds Caribisch Gebied and some close supporters of Rebecca Roos Productions

"I think BY HER HAND fits nicely within the goals of the Belize festival", says Roos, "And it will be nice to see the reaction from an audience where nobody knows these women personally. But then again, Belize borders the Mexican state of Tabasco, where Marifer Aguirre Broca, one of the women profiled in the documentary, was born - so you never know" she adds with a smile.

BY HER HAND will show on Saturday at 3:15 PM on Screen 2, during the Belize International Film Festival.



tures. As a high risk countries Angiolina Henriquez (Pix

## US set to deliver F-16s to Egypt: officials

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The United States is pressing ahead with plans to deliver four F-16 fighters to Egypt despite a military coup against President hammed Morsi, a US official said Thursday.

"It's still the status quo," the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, told AFP

There was no decision to halt the scheduled transfer of the warplanes or to cut off other security assistance to Egypt, the official said, even though the US government has announced a review of all aid to Cairo.

President Barack Obama's administration has said it is examining whether the military takeover constitutes a coup, which under US law would force Washington to freeze any aid to Egypt.

The State Department said previously planned assistance would continue to flow to

"We're still paying our bills, of course, and all of the programs are still moving forward," spokeswoman Jen Psakı told reporters.

The Pentagon said it remains dedicated to maintaining longstanding military ties with Egypt and that the United States wants to see a prompt return to civilian, democratic rule.

"Looking forward, we will work with the Egyptian people to support a quick and responsible return to a sustainable, democratically elected civilian government," the Pentagon said in a statement.

"Given the events of last week, the president has directed relevant departments and agencies to review our assistance to the government of Egypt."

The F-16s are part of an arms deal with Egypt approved in 2010 that calls for the supply of 20 of the fighter

Eight of the warplanes were delivered earlier this year and four more are scheduled to be delivered in August, with another eight due later in the year, officials said.

Egypt has received more than 220 F-16 fighters since 1980 and has the world's fourth largest F-16 fleet, behind the United States, Israel and Turkey.

The F-16s are part of an arms deal with Egypt approved in 2010 that calls for the supply of 20 of the fighter

Egypt has received more than 220 F-16 fighters since 1980 and has the world's fourth largest F-16 fleet, behind the United States, Israel and Turkey.

The United States provides \$1.5 billion of mostly military aid to Egypt every







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## New twist in Florida trial...

#### Continued from pg 1

"The state has charged him with second degree murder," said defense attorney Don West. "They should be required to prove it, if they can If they can't prove it, then that is the failing of the prosecution.

"Had they wanted to charge him with manslaughter instead, because they think that's a better chance under their theory of prosecution -- whatever it may actually be, since we haven't heard it yet -- they could do that

"We want this to go to the jury on second degree murder only."

Defense attorneys late Wednesday rested their case without calling Zimmerman to the witness stand, after three weeks of evidence and testimony.

Zimmerman, a neighborhood watch volunteer, has been portrayed by prosecutors as a would-be cop who shot Martin during a confrontation in a gated residential community in the central Florida city of Sanford.

During testimony Wednesday, attorneys from both sides straddled a foam dummy to demonstrate their respective versions of the fatal fight between Zimmerman and Martin, in which each said claims that the other side instigated the hostilities.

Zimmerman said he phoned police when he saw Martin walking in a hooded sweatshirt in a gated communit which had seen a string of recent robberies.

He told police that he found Martin's behavior suspicious, and followed the youth even though he had been instructed by authorities not to do so.

Martin had been visiting a family friend in the neighborhood and was coming back from a convenience store just before his altercation with Zimmerman.

The defense said he was guilty of racially profiling Martin, but Zimmerman has denied any racial motive in the killing, saying he shot Martin only because he feared his life was in danger.

The trial has centered in part on Florida's controversial "Stand Your Ground" law, which permits a shooter to use deadly force if he believes his life to be at risk.

## Venezuela says Snowden yet to reply to asylum offer

MONTEVIDEO (AFP) - US intelligence leaker Edward Snowden has yet to reply to Venezuela's offer of asylum, Venezuelan foreign Minister Elias Jaua told AFP on Thursday

"Not yet," Jaua said on the sidelines of a meeting of the Mercosur trade bloc in Montevideo when asked if Caracas had received a response to the offer.

He added that his government has had no contact with Snowden, who is believed to have been stranded at Moscow's international airport since June 23.

Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro offered "humanitarian asylum" to Snow-

Powerful psychic Olga spiritual healer and adviser god gifted miracle worker solves all problems, reunites lovers, calls enemies by name, true answers, never failed a case. Call now free reading 518-618-5673 den last week and said Monday that it was up to the fugitive to decide if and when he wants to fly to Caracas.

A top Russian lawmaker close to the Kremlin, Alexei Pushkov, sparked confusion on Tuesday when he tweeted that Snowden had accepted Venezuela's offer, only to delete his post 30 minutes later.

The WikiLeaks anti-secrecy website, which has been assisting Snowden, said after the tweet that the 30year-old former National Security Agency contractor had "not yet formally accepted asylum in Venezuela."

The United States told China in talks on Thursday it was "very disappointed" that Beijing did not hand over US intelligence leaker Edward Snowden when he fled to Hong Kong

Deputy Secretary of State William Burns, in a joint press appearance after two days of talks between the countries, said China's handling of the case was "not consistent" with recent calls for greater cooperation.



#### Registro Civil y Censo

Hefe di Registro Civil y Censo ta participa cu conforme articulo 3 jo. 33 di nos Ordenansa Electoral e cierre di e Registro di Votado a tuma luga diaranson 10 juli 2013 ultimo.

Solamente personanan cu ta aparece den e registro di Censo ariba dicho fecha, cu tin nacionalidad Hulandes y dia di eleccion tin 18 aña pariba, por participa na e eleccion dia 27 september 2013. E registro di votado a cera cu total di 68.755 votado.

Segun articulo 11 di nos Ordenansa Electoral tur persona cu no ta aparece den e lista aki tin derecho di haci peticion dentro di 5 dia despues di e cierre di e Registro di Votado na Corte di Prome Instancia di Aruba pa añadi of drecha e Registro di Votado, si nan no ta di acuerdo cu nan no ta aparece den e registro aki. Pa e eleccion 2013, e ultimo dia pa entrega un peticion na Corte lo ta dialuna 15 di juli 2013. Na oficina di Censo tin un formulario special pa haci e peticion y tambe por haya e formulario riba

http://www.overheid.aw/index.asp?nmoduleid=19&wgid=6&spagetype=21 &nPageID=6001957&nCMSPageType=1

BIJLAGE II pagina 11.

E registro ta accesibel tambe na Oficina di Censo y Registro Civil.

Pa averigua si bo nomber ta den e Registro, bo ta bay riba <a href="www.overheid.aw">www.overheid.aw</a> of <a href="www.gobierno.aw">www.overheid.aw</a> of <a href="www.gobierno.aw</a> y ariba e homepage na man robes tin un hoki "kiezerslijst 2013". Den e hoki bo ta type e aña cu bo a nace, luna, dia y e ultimo number patras riba bo cedula. Despues bo ta primi "zoeken" y bo fam ta aparece. Esey ta nifica cu bo ta den e Registro di voto pa 2013.

Ta recorda tur esnan cu no tin un identificacion valido pa pasa na Censo y haci un peticion na tempo mirando cu ta dura dos siman pa procesa un paspoort y tres siman pa un cedula di identidad. Pa paspoort por haci un cita via <a href="mailto:cita@censo.aw">cita@censo.aw</a> of yama 5838181. Si bo persona ta desea pa haci esey, durante e cita pa paspoort, bo persona por pidi tambe pa un cedula di identidad.

PA TUR INFORMASHON y REKISITO pa PASPOORT bishita e facebook page Registro Civil y Censo.

#### BEKENDMAKING

Het Hoofd Dienst Burgerlijke Stand en Bevolkingsregister maakt hierbij bekend dat ingevolge artikel 3 jo. 33 Kiesverordening de sluiting van het Kiezersregister op woensdag 10 juli 2013 heeft plaatsgevonden.

Alleen diegenen die op genoemde datum in het bevolkingsregister staan ingeschreven, de Nederlandse nationaliteit bezitten en die op de dag der stemming op 27 september 2013, de leeftijd van 18 jaar hebben bereikt, mogen aan de stemming deelnemen. Het kiezersregister is gesloten met 68.755 kiesgerechtigden.

Op grond van artikel 11 van de Kiesverordening is een ieder bevoegd om binnen vijf dagen na de sluiting van het Kiezersregister bij het Gerecht in Eerste Aanleg van Aruba aanvulling of verbetering van het Kiezersregister te verzoeken op grond dat hij niet of niet behoorlijk in dit register is opgenomen. Voor de verkiezingen 2013 geldt dat men het bezwaar uiterlijk maandag 15 juli kan indienen. Bij het BBSB is er een speciaal formulier voor het invullen van het bezwaar.

Tevens is het formulier beschikbaar op

http://www.overheid.aw/index.asp?nmoduleid=19&wgid=6&spagetype=21 &nPageID=6001957&nCMSPageType=1

BIJLAGE II pagina 11.

Op de website <a href="www.overheid.aw">www.overheid.aw</a> of <a href="www.overheid.aw">www.gobierno.aw</a> vindt u op de linkerzijde van de homepage een vakje "kiezerslijst 2013". In dat vakje tikt u uw geboortejaar, maand, dag en het laatste nummer op uw id. Klik vervolgens zoeken en uw achternaam verschijnt in het vakje. Dit betekent dat uw naam voorkomt in het kiezersregister 2013.

Het kiezersregister is ook voor inzage beschikbaar bij de Dienst Burgerlijke Stand en Bevolkingsregister.

Personen die niet over een geldig identiteitsbewijs beschikken, dienen dit tijdig aan te vragen. Het proces van aanvraag tot afgifte van een paspoort duurt 2 weken, dat van een identiteitsbewijs ongeveer 3 weken. U kunt een afspraak maken voor het aanvragen van een paspoort via <a href="mailto:censo@cita.aw">censo@cita.aw</a> of telefoon 5838181. Desgewenst kunt u indien u een afspraak hebt om een paspoort aan te vragen, van die gelegenheid gebruik maken om meteen een identiteitsbewijs aan te vragen. ALLE INFORMATIE OMTRENT AANVRAAG VAN PASPOORT STAAT OP ONZE FACEBOOK PAGINA REGISTRO CIVIL Y CENSO.

### **International News**

## Brazil workers protest nationwide for better conditions



SAO PAULO (AFP) - Brazilian workers on Thursday blocked roads and staged protest rallies across the country in a day of industrial action called by major unions to press demands for better work conditions.

The "National Day of Struggles" was called by the country's five leading labor federations during last month's mass street protests to demand better public services and an end to endemic corruption.

The unions are demanding better wages, shorter working hours, job security, improved public transport and bigger investments in public health and education

In the huge Sao Paulo metropolitan area, home to 20 million people, a peaceful march by demonstrators blocked traffic on several roads as they converged on the central Avenida Paulista.

In nearby Sao Jose dos Campos, the Metalworkers Union said more than 15,000 workers from 20 local plants were taking part in strikes and demonstrations.

Among companies affected were General Motors, where a 24-hour strike was in effect, and Embraer, Brazil's top planemaker,

a union statement said

Banks and shops were closed for fear of looting and ransacking.

In other major cities such as Salvador de Bahia, Porto Alegre, Belo Horizonte, Curitiba, Florianopolis, Fortaleza and Manaus, public transport was seriously disrupted.

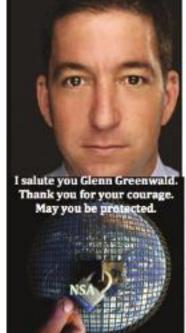
Several schools closed and in some hospitals around the country, only emergency services were operating.

Top unions meanwhile appear divided on whether to support President Dilma Rousseff who last month vowed to hear "the voices of the street" and pledged to boost investments in public transport, health and education.

The country's biggest labor federation, the Unified Workers' Central commonly known by the acronym CUT and founded in the 1980's by expresident Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva (2003-2010), backs Rousseff's proposal for a popular plebisicite to usher in broad political reform.



## Latin America demands answers from US on spying



"That the US government - in complete secrecy - is constructing a ubiquitous spying apparatus aimed not only at its own citizens, but all of the world's citizens, has profound consequences.

It erodes, if not eliminates, the ability to use the internet with any remnant of privacy or personal security. It vests the US government with boundless power over those to whom it has no accountability. It permits allies of the US - including aggressively oppressive ones to benefit from indiscriminate spying on their citizens' communications. It radically alters the

balance of power between the US and ordinary citizens of the world. And it sends an unmistakable signal to the world that while the US very minimally values the privacy rights of Americans, it assigns zero value to the privacy of everyone else on the planet."

MEXICO CITY (AFP) - From its neighbor Mexico down to Argentina, Latin American nations are demanding answers from the United States after a report of vast US spying on close allies and leftist critics

alike. Governments voiced a mix of outrage and concern after the Brazilian daily O Globo, citing documents leaked by fugitive former US intelligence contractor Edward Snowden, said several nations were targets of US electronic surveillance.

The snooping included lifting data on leftist Venezuela's oil and military purchases and Mexico's drug war and energy sector as well as mapping the movements of a Marxist guer-

rilla group in Colombia, the newspaper said.

completely unacceptable."

Mexico and the United States have worked closely in the battle against drug trafficking in recent years, with the US government earmarking \$1.9 billion in law enforcement training and equipment.

The reported spying on the energy sector comes as Pena Nieto, who took office in December, mulls a reform aimed at attracting more private investment in the state-run oil monopoly Pemex.

O Globo said other countries targeted by the National Secunty Agency were Argentina, Ecuador, Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, Paraguay, Chile, Peru and El Salvador.

The issue will be on the agenda of Friday's summit of the Mercosur trade bloc, which includes Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay and Venezuela. The leaders of Bolivia and Honduras were also invited to the talks in Montevideo.

"The Mercosur meeting is an opportunity to take a common stand. Any attack on the sovereignty of one country must be answered with great firmness, because if we lower our heads, they will walk all over us," warned Brazil's presidential chief of staff Gilberto Carvalho.

Many of the President ordered investigations into the report of electronic spying on their citizens and companies.

## Spanish police break up international cocaine ring

MADRID (AFP) - Spanish Europe, was a "known Colompolice said Thursday they had bian drug dealer" living in smashed an international co- Brazil, who was arrested in caine ring in a two-year operation with other forces that led to the arrests of 74 people in Spain, Brazil and Colombia.

Police seized 575 kilogrammes (1,270 pounds) of the drug and closed five secret laboratories in a global swoop together with US, Brazilian and French police.

They also seized 11 firearms including an assault rifle along with 588,000 euros (\$765,000) and \$7 million in cash, the Spanish police said in a statement.

The alleged head of the ring, which moved drugs and cash between South America and Rio de Janeiro, the police said.

The cocaine was sent to Spain and transferred to five laboratories in Malaga, Madrid and Cordoba to be cut and then sold in Spain, France and Italy, police said.

It was transported in false bottoms in the bodies of cars. Two of the cars were seized in Marseille, southern France, one of which was carrying 30 kilogrammes of cocaine.

Police detained 70 men and women, including Spaniards, Colombians, Portuguese, Iranians and Boli-



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Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto said Wednesday his government had asked for "an explanation to clear up" the spying claims and that if they turn out to be true, "it would be

The Mexican daily Excelsion reported Wednesday that Pena Nieto's predecessor had allowed the United States to install a system to intercept phone calls and Internet chatter.

The Mexican attorney general's office opened an investigation to determine whether a crime was committed.



## **Health & Living**

## Nearly six million die from smoking every year: WHO



WASHINGTON (AFP) - Despite public health campaigns, smoking remains the leading avoidable cause of death worldwide, killing almost six million people a year, mostly in low- and middle-income countries, the World Health Organization said Wednesday.

If current trends hold, the

blamed on tobacco use will rise to eight million a year in 2030, the WHO said in a brief-

About 80 percent of tobacco-related deaths forecast for 2030 are expected in lowand middle-income countries, the report added.

"If we do not close ranks number of deaths that are and ban tobacco advertising,

promotion and sponsorship, adolescents and young adults will continue to be lured into tobacco consumption by an ever-more aggressive tobacco industry," said WHO Director-General Dr Margaret Chan

"Every country has the responsibility to protect its population from tobacco-related illness, disability and death."

Among the dead this year, | five million were tobacco users or former users, while more than 600,000 died from second-hand smoke, according to the WHO.

Tobacco use is believed to have caused the deaths of 100 million people in the 20th cen-

Barring dramatic change, the tally for this century could soar to one billion people, the WHO warned

## Omega-3 acids linked to child allergies, prostate risk



STOCKHOLM (AFP) - Omega-3 fatty acids, often taken to boost health, appear to increase the risk of childhood allergies and prostate cancer, according to two studies unveiled. Newborns with high levels of unsaturated fats in their blood were more prone to develop an allergy than those with lower blood concentrations, according to a probe by three Swedish universities. Previous research has indicated that children who at an early age were given fish, which is famously high in omega-3 fatty acids, were less likely to get an allergy. Another author of the study, food science professor Ann-Sofie Sandberg, cautioned against avoiding fish on the basis of these findings. Separately, a large study published in Britain's Journal of the National Cancer Institute found that three omega-3 fatty acids were associated with an increase of between 43 and 71 percent in the risk of developing prostate cancer. The biggest increase in risk was for so-called high-grade prostate cancer, whose tumours are more likely to be fatal. The study, led by scientists at the US Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, amplifies previous findings in 2011 that suggested these fatty acids play an unexplained role in initiating prostate cancer. In May, an Italian-led study showed that fish oil supplements rich in omega-3 fatty acids were not beneficial for patients at high risk of cardiovascular troubles and already under medication. Previous clinical trials had suggested the supplements could reduce cardiovascular risks for patients suffering from cardiovascular disease or who had already suffered cardiac arrest.

## New gene therapy hope for rare childhood disease

WASHINGTON (AFP) - A new type of gene therapy has shown promise in wiping out two rare childhood diseases, apparently without the risks of causing cancer, international researchers said Thursday.

The method used an HIV virus vector and the patients' own blood stem cells to deliver a corrected version of a faulty gene, said the report in the US journal Science.

As a result, six children are doing well, 18 to 32 months after their operations, said lead scientist Luigi Naldini of the San Raffaele Telethon Institute for Gene Therapy in Milan.

Three of the children suffer from metachromatic leukodystrophy, a disease of the nervous system which is caused by mutations in the ARSA gene.

Babies with the disease appear healthy when they are

born, but as they grow, they start to lose cognitive and motor skills. There is no cure.

The new gene therapy approach has halted progression of the disease in these three children, researchers said.

The other three children in the study have Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome, which is caused by mutations in the WAS gene and results in recurring infections, autoimmune diseases, frequent bleeding, and a high risk of cancer.

The treatment has caused the children's symptoms to lessen or vanish altogether, the researchers said.

Previous attempts at gene therapy for a range of diseases, including Wiskott-Aldrich Syndrome, have shown some success, but over the long term it was discovered that immunecompromised patients sometimes developed blood cancer. Researchers now believe

that the viral vectors used in the past may have somehow activated a part of the DNA that caused cancer.

Scientists have been greatly cautious with human trials on gene therapy since the 1999 death of an American teenager, Jesse Gelsinger, whose participation in a trial for a rare metabolic disorder overwhelmed his immune system and led to death by multiple organ failure.

The new method is based on taking hematopoietic stem cells from the patients' bone marrow and introducing a corrected copy of the defective gene using viral vectors derivd from HIV.

When the treated cells are re-injected into the patients, they begin to restore the missing protein to key organs.





## New Nokia smartphone has monster camera

NEW YORK CITY (AFP) -Finland's Nokia unveiled its latest smartphone Thursday with a powerful 41-megapixel camera touted as offering "more detail than the eye can see."

In unveiling the new device in New York, Nokia said its Lumia 1020 smartphone "is able to produce some of the sharpest images possible by any digital camera."

The Windows-powered phone has six physical lenses and optical image stabilization, and can handle sound pressure levels six times louder than conventional smartphone microphones, the company said.

"The Nokia Lumia 1020



The phone, which will be sold in the US market this month and in Europe and Using a feature called dual capture, the phone 1020 simultaneously takes a high resolution 38 megapixel image for editing opportunities, and a five-megapixel picture that is easy to share on social networks, Nokia said.

Nokia has seen its past glory fade under pressure of competition from Apple and Asian mobile phone makers.

Microsoft and Nokia joined forces about two years ago in an alliance aimed at making inroads with handsets powered by Windows Phone software

Windows, boosted by the Windows Phone 8 introduced last year, boosted its US market share to 5.6 percent from 3.8 percent, according to a recent Kantar Worldpanel ComTech survey.

## Sci-Tech

## China rain, landslides leave 28 dead, 66 missing

BEIJING (AFP) - Heavy rain across China has left at least 28 people dead and 66 missing, officials reported Thursday, after landslides crushed homes, bridges collapsed, and dozens of villages were cut off.

The storms, which began Sunday, have affected more than three million people, the Ministry of Civil Affairs said on its website.

Nearly half of those -- 1.45 million people -- were in Sichuan, where 62 were missing, the government of the southwestern province said on its Sina Weibo microblog account.

At least 18 people died after a landslide on Wednesday engulfed homes in Zhongxing in the province, the state news agency Xinhua reported Thursday, citing local authorities

Footage on state broadcaster CCTV showed a wide rush of muddy water, though a reporter said levels had fallen.

Another 12 people were unaccounted for Wednesday after landslides at a village in Mianyang in the province, the Sichuan government said.

Twelve others and six vehicles were still missing after a bridge in Jiangyou city collapsed into the rushing waters on Tuesday -- one of three such incidents in Sichuan

Other deaths spanned the country, from Beijing to the central province of Henan and Xinjiang in the far west, ministry figures showed.

Some 2,000 people trapped in a tunnel by another landslide in Sichuan were rescued on Wednesday, with television footage showing crowds walking down the middle of a road.

Emergency teams were working to clear a landslide on a road to Beichuan county that had left 40 villages cut off.

Beichuan was the epicentre in 2008 of China's deadliest earthquake in three decades -an 8.0-magnitude tremor that left more than 87,000 people dead.

Altogether about 110,000 Sichuan residents have been relocated because of the storms, the provincial government said on Weibo, adding that it was still collating the total damage.

Officials in Zhongxing and the provincial capital Chengdu declined to comment when contacted by AFP.

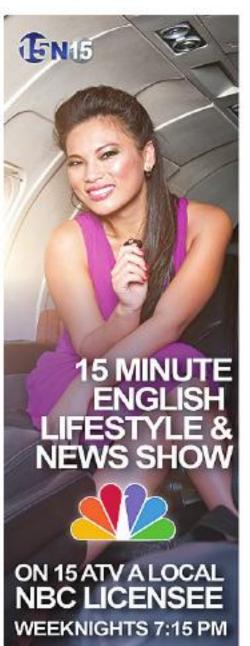
## Swedish company to invest £460 mn in British wind farms



"Currently, the UK market for investing in onshore wind power is an attractive



market for Vattenfall because the government has backed its development as a crucial part of its growth agenda," said Peter Smink, head of the group's Sustainanble Energy Projects unit. The state-owned utility said construction on Pen y Cymoedd, a 76-turbine wind farm in south Wales, would begin next year. After completion it will have a power capacity of 228 MW, corresponding to the annual electricity usage of 140,000 households. Construction on an 18-turbine Clashindarroch wind farm in Aberdeenshire in Scotland has recently begun and will be completed in early 2015, Vattenfall said. The Scottish plant will have a capacity of 36.9 MW, corresponding to the annual electricity needs of 22,000 homes.



#### PICKLES









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website:

- 8. Put your hands together
- 12. Move like a frog
- Actress Skye
- 14. Split
- 15. Off \_\_\_ tangent (2 wds.)
- Operations center
- 17. Recedes
- 18. Muted color
- 20. Cut off twigs
- 22. "\_\_\_ My Party"
- 23. Car's \_\_\_ valve
- 27. Slight 30. Explosive trio
- 31. Kilmer of "Batman
- Forever" 32. March flier
- 33. Peat marsh
- 34. Programs the
- alarm 35. "\_\_\_ Cry Tomorrow"
- 36. Actress Lenz
- 37. Orchard sight 38. \_\_\_ of the
- community
- 40. Deli loaf
- 42. Wayfarer's stopover
- 43. TV antenna
- 47. \_\_\_ radio (hyph.)
- 50. Edison's
- middle name 52. Undercover gp.

- Faucet woe 54. Rathskeller order
- 55. NYC summer setting
- 56. Knights 57. Tall tale
- 58. Witness

#### DOWN

- Popular pork cut
- 2. \_ fide
- Watering places
- 4. "Seven Years
- Hockey scores

- 9. Book

12

15

32

35

38

53

56

- 6. Elected ones 7. Emotion
- Crawled
- borrowing spot (abbr.)

- 10. Lackland, for one (abbr.)
- 11. Liquid measures (abbr.)
- 19. Clock information
- 21. Toronto's province
- (abbr.) 24. Affirm
- 25. Actress
- Mulgrew
- 26. Otherwise 27. "\_\_\_ it!"
- 28. Actress Taylor of "Mystic Pizza"
- 29. "\_\_ keep"
- 30. Mattel product
- 33. "\_\_\_ Jones" (Ebsen
- series) 34. After ham or

23

40

43

30

33

50

54

57

13

16

22

39

42

- 44. Frosts a cake
- 46. Not punctual
- 47. Commercials.
- 48. Modern diagnostic tool
- Evergreen

14

17

# 9 SOLUTION

#### gang

- 36. Topeka's st.
- 39. Walks lamely 40. One who has a tantrum
- Hanker
- 45. Candy striper
- briefly
- (abbr.)
- 51. Pasture

25

45

31

52

55

58

# 6 3

#### 1 4 8 2 8 7 8 8 4 1 3 2 4 8 1 8 8 6 2 8 8 4 8 9 7 1 9 8 7 3 5 2 4 6 1 9 8 1 4 8 8 8 8 6 7 1 6 8 2 1 9 7 3 5 4 9 8 8 8 8 2 1 1 7 8 1 8 4 4 8 8 8 9 8 8 8 8 4 4 7 5

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9 A number is Never repeated in a row or column. In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

6

8

8

9

6

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3

7

9

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### **FINANCE**

## US, China see progress on investment treaty

spying.

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The United States and China said Thursday they had moved forward on a treaty that would ramp up investment as the world's two largest economies highlighted progress in often strained ties.

Despite a feud over cyberhacking, US officials said China had agreed for the first time to put on the table all areas -- not just those it selects -- in negotiations on a treaty that governs investment rules.

Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew said in a statement that a bilateral investment treaty would "work to level the playing field for American workers and businesses by opening markets for fair competition."

The United States and China first started talks on a treaty in 2008 and the two sides remained vague on the extent of progress, not giving any timeframe for the conclusion of negotiations.

Chinese Commerce Minister Gao Hucheng spoke favorably of a treaty, saying that it would boost the future of investment that has already topped \$90 billion between the two countries.

A treaty holds incentives for both sides. The United States often complains of Chinese restrictions on foreign investors, although a US official said the Chinese side also spoke of developing a model free trade zone in Shanghai.

China, in turn, has been

#### YESTERDAY'S **Crossword Answer**

..............

A	L	D	A		A	٧	1	D		D	U	D
В	0	0	T		R	0	T	E		U	S	A
C	0	L	1		C	L	E	N	C	H	E	D
S	P	L	A	S	Н		W	Т	A			
			C	H	E	E		s	1	8	3	Y
	A	D	H	E	8	E			N	C	A	A
S	8	E		A	5	1	D	E		A	T	M
U	T	A	H		119	N	E	G	A	T	E	ı
٧	A	L	1	D		T	A	0	T			
П			N	R	A		A	S	н	T	0	N
M	A	N	D	A	R	1	M		0	H	N	0
0	D	E		K	1	N	G		M	0	0	D
s	E	A			D	G	E		E	R	R	S

#### alarmed by repeated US efforts to limit investment in sectors seen as critical to national security. Telecoms giant Huawei recently became the latest Chinese firm to lose hope over the US market after a congressional report charged that its equipment could be used for

A bilateral investment treaty would need approval by twothirds of the US Senate, where many members are critical of China's activities in areas from copyright protection to its currency rate to human rights.

The United States and China -- which together pump out more than 40 percent of carbon blamed for the planet's warming temperatures -- also pledged to step up cooperation on climate change, a growing priority for both governments.

## CBS: Record number of bankruptcies in first six months of 2013



THE NETHERLANDS -- In the first six months of 2013, a record number of corporate and institutional bankruptcies were filed. According to the latest figures released by Statistics Netherlands, 4 in every 10 bankruptcies were recorded in the sectors construction or trade.

In the first half of this year, 4,983 companies and institutions were declared bankrupt,

i.e. a 14 percent increase on the same period last year. The number of bankruptcies is unprecedented since the start of the survey in 1981. The number of one-man businesses going bankrupt increased by only 1 percent. The increase among other businesses and institutions was 16 percent.

The number of bankruptcies in trade (1,040) and construction (985) remained invariably

high. In trade, the bankruptcy rate was particularly high in (wholesale) trade in clothes, construction materials, DIY materials and home furnishing shops. In the building sector, the construction of new residential and non-residential property units suffered most The bankruptcy rate in related occupational groups like painters, plumbers, glaziers and property developers also increased notably.

Most bankruptcies were filed in the provincies of South Holland, North Brabant and North Holland These provinces also have the highest business density. The number of bankruptcies has grown across all provinces relative to the first half of 2012. With 69 percent, the highest relative increase was recorded in the province of Groningen The lowest increase was recorded in the province of Gelderland (5 percent).

## Dow, S&P 500 at new highs on Fed's easy-money vow

Dow Jones Industrial Average and S&P 500 Thursday vaulted to new records Thursday after Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke pledged to maintain the Fed's easy-money policy for the foreseeable future.

The Dow surged 169.26 (1.11 percent) to 15,460.92,

NEW YORK (AFP) - The well above the previous high noon, promised to keep inter- as soon as September. of 15,409.39 on May 28. The S&P 500 gained 22.40 (1.36 percent) to 1,675.02, up from it prior record of 1,669.16 on May 21.

The Nasdaq Composite meanwhile added 57.54 (1.63 percent) to 3,578.30.

Bernanke, speaking in Boston late Wednesday after-

est rates low due to the weak economy, suggesting a slower time-frame to tapering the Fed's aggressive bond-buying program.

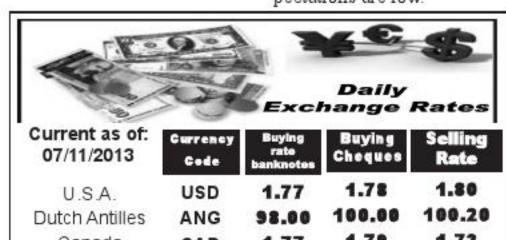
The comments surprised markets, which have been bracing for the Fed to scale back the bond-buying program

"I don't think there's any immediate Fed tapering in the future," said William Lynch, director of investments at Hinsdale Associates

Lynch said markets are also hopeful that the upcoming earnings season will surprise to the upside, given that expectations are low.



NEW YORK (AFP) - David Karp (C), founder of the microblogging site Tumblr, opens the NASCAQ Exchange on July 11, 2013 in New York City. Tumblr was bought by Yahoo! for \$1 billion in May; Karp is estimated to be worth \$200 million.



1.73 1.79 1.77 Canada CAD 2.85 2.74 Britiain GBP 2.80 188,48 192.43 Switzerland CHF 191.71 234.66 Netherlands 232.69 230.59 EUR 27.22 26.63 Sweden 25.91 SEK 31.71 30.95 Denmark 30.23 DKK 29.85 Norway 31.39 30.67 NOK Japan 216.84 181.02 214.88 JPY (per 10,000)

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## Britain's Kate: middle-class mum of future monarch

LONDON (AFP) - Kate Middleton was the middle-class girl who made becoming a princess look easy -- but bringing up a royal baby will bring fresh challenges for Britain's glamorous future queen.

Since her fairytale marriage to Prince William in 2011, 31year-old Catherine, Duchess of Cambridge, as she is now formally known, has hardly put a foot wrong.

Reportedly once nicknamed "Little Miss Perfect", the glossy brunette has breathed new life into the monarchy. drawing comparisons with William's late mother Princess Diana.

And as the first "commoner" to marry a future king since 1660, she has helped bring the royals closer to ordinary Britons.

Kate's great-great-grandfather was a humble coal miner, although hers is no rags-toriches story -- her parents are self-made millionaires from a party supplies business.

Michael and Carole Middleton met at British Airways, she as an air hostess and he as a flight dispatcher. Catherine, their first child, was born in the town of Reading, west of London, in 1982.

The family lived in Jordan when Kate was a toddler, before returning to Britain and setting up their company Party Pieces in 1987.

Kate was sent to the expensive Marlborough College boarding school, where she mingled in the same aristo cratic circles as William.

But it was not until 2001. studying history of art at St Andrews University in Scotland, that she met her husband-to-be

"She was known as Beautiful Kate almost from day one," recalled former student Helen McArdle in a television documentary.

Known at school for being hard-working and sporty, Kate kept up her whiter-thanwhite image at university -with a couple of exceptions.

There was the student fashion show where she wore a transparent dress -- the moment, legend has it, that she caught the prince's eye. McArdle also remembers seeing the future duchess "paralytically drunk" on one occasion.

After university, while William began his military training, Kate worked for Party Pieces and took a parttime job as a fashion house



buyer.

Alone in London, she was hounded by photographers in a grim reminder of the media's hunger for Diana, who died in a car crash in Paris in 1997, pursued by paparazzi

Nicknamed "Waity Katie" by British tabloids and reportedly mocked by William's circle, who would whisper "doors to manual" when she

entered a room because of her mother's old job as a stewardess, it was a difficult time.

when worse William dumped duce an heir her in 2007.

friends would have got revenge by selling their story, but Kate maintained a dignified silence split.

"At the time I wasn't very happy about it," she later said of the breakme a stronger person."

Since then she has won praise for her poise in the intimidating world of the royals.

Her Alexander McQueen wedding gown installed her as a fashion icon, while her mix of designer labels and high street bargains has made her a fixture on "best dressed" lists.

Echoes of Diana, meanwhile, are never far away.

In September the royals planet.

sued over photographs of Kate sunbathing topless in France, raising fears Kate could face the same intrusion.

And as with Diana, there It was made was constant speculation about when she would pro-

The announcement came in Many jilted girl- December when the duchess was hospitalised with morning sickness.

The duchess has since returned to work, flashing her megawatt smile and promotduring the brief ing her various charities.

But while hugely popular she remains, in many ways, a mystery.

Her reserve has fed claims that she is boring -- novelist up. "But it made Hilary Mantel described her as a "shop-window mannequin" with a plastic smile.

It is rare to hear her speak -- and if she has a "naughty sense of humour", as William says, it is kept well hidden from the public.

Like any new mother, she faces exhausting months ahead

The difference is that Kate's child will one day be monarch -- making her one of the most scrutinised mothers on the

## Ramadan



RAMADAN is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar, Muslims worldwide observe this as a month of fasting. This annual observance is regarded as one of the Five Pillars of Islam. The month lasts 29-30 days based on the visual sightings of the crescent moon, according to numerous biographical accounts compiled in hadiths. The word Ramadan comes from the Arabic root ramida or ar-ramad, which means scorching heat or dryness. Fasting is fardh (obligatory) for adult Muslims, except those who are ill, travelling, pregnant, diabetic or going through menstrual bleeding.

While fasting from dawn until sunset. Muslims refrain from

consuming food, drinking liquids, smoking, and engaging in sexual relations, in some interpretations they also refrain from swearing. Food and drink

month they are believed to be multiplied. Fasting for Muslims during Ramadan typically includes the increased offering of salat (prayers) and recitation of the Quran. Charity is very important in

of fasting are many, but in this

Islam, and even more so during Ramadan. Zakat, often translated as "the poor-rate", is obligatory as one of the pillars of Islam; a fixed percentage is required to be given to the poor of the person's savings.

In many Muslim countries, it is a common sight to see people giving more food to the poor and the homeless, and



is served daily, before sunrise and after sunset. ] According to Islam, the thawab (rewards)

even to see large public areas for the poor to come and break their fast.

## Venezuelans told to 'unfriend' Facebook over US spying



CARACAS (AFP) - A government minister in Venezuela. which has offered fugitive US intelligence leaker Edward Snowden asylum, is urging her countrymen to cancel their Facebook accounts lest they be targeted by US snooping.

"Fellow Venezuelans: cancel your Facebook accounts, since you unwittingly have worked as CIA informants! Look at the Snowden case!" prisons minister Maria Iris Varela said in a Twitter post-

Varela also said victims of 'gringo espionage" should file lawsuits to demand "fair compensation" and bankrupt the US government.

In apparent limbo in

Moscow, Snowden has applied for asylum in 27 countries as he tries to evade American justice for disclosing a vast program of US worldwide electronic surveillance.

It remains unclear how Snowden would be able to leave the transit zone of Sheremetyevo Airport, where he has been marooned without a valid passport since he arrived from Hong Kong on June 23.

Snowden, a former IT contractor at the US National Security Agency, said it had gathered vast amounts of users' private Internet data from Facebook and other Internet giants.

## 5 Burgers Aruba: Now your best breakfast bargain!



**Delicious Breakfast** 

--A favorite stop for a great burger for lunch or dinner has just expanded their hours and menu to offer some of the best breakfast bargains to be found in Palm Beach. Owners Aaron and Rosie Walisever are living their dream: a home on paradise while welcoming all and sundry to their proud undertaking, 5 Burgers Aruba. The couple's fanatical dedication to giving their customers what they really want has resulted in a unique menu from an internationally known franchise with a "5", which now includes breakfast.

"You never get a second chance to make a first impression," believes Aaron. Upon entering 5 Burgers Aruba in The Village Mall in Palm Beach, one is struck by utterly spotless surroundings and a smiling, friendly, attentive service crew. Of course,

the main item on the menu is burgers-the way they were meant to be, thick and juicy, made fresh daily and 100% pure beef, the kind that made the hamburger a traditional American treat.

However, beginning at 8 a.m., patrons can now order 2

eggs any style, (omelets with 3 fillings are \$7.99) toast and coffee with unlimited refills for the special introductory price of only \$4.99,(\$5.48 with bacon) or All-you-can-eat pancakes, for \$6.99, with free refills on fresh coffee. A new plate called the "Home Run" comes with 2 eggs, bacon or sausage, 2 pancakes, toast, home fries, with complimentary, unlimited coffee for only \$9.99! Breakfast is served until 11 a.m. Famous for their fries made from fresh potatoes, Aaron has been working for months on devising the most irresistible home fries recipe, chunky and tender with skins still on, after much testing and tasting, he got the thumbs up from his harshest critic, Rosie; so this is another treat you have to try.

A glance at their burger menu will certainly tempt you to return for lunch or dinner, to sample their famous specialty items such as the Gouda, Farmer's or Man Burger (al-



most 12 ounces of choice beef), and a Western Burger with Aarons' secret-recipe crispy onion rings. All of these can be personalized with an incredible array of toppings, (mushrooms, jala-peño peppers, bacon, cheese, lettuce, tomato whatever, the list goes on) at absolutely no extra cost.

5 Burger portions are ENORMOUS! Aaron suggests that even their small serving of fries is enough to be shared by two. He was very amused to watch a famous French chef demonstrating the best way to make fried potatoes on a gourmet cooking show and could only comment "He stole my recipe!"

Try them the English waywith vinegar, and you'll wonder how you ever ate fries without it. This same 5-star chef also swears by Gouda as the best topping for the ideal gourmet cheeseburger.

5 Burgers is now open from 8am to 10pm-ish Sunday - Thursday. For those late night diners, 5 Burgers is open until 3AM-ish on Friday & Saturdays! Delivery is available to most Hotels and most beaches! Enjoy a great lunch without ever leaving the beach by calling 586-3904 However, we suggest you stop by and enjoy their authentic, heartfelt hospitality, it is not unusual for either owner to sit and chat, sharing their knowledge of the island while making sure patrons are happy with their meal

## Gold Coast Aruba: This is the time to invest

-- Management of Gold Coast Aruba, the island's newest and most innovative gated community, reports that sales have been very good and encouraging as the global economy recovers and people looking to purchase vacation homes have found that Gold Coast is an outstanding investment value. Director of Sales, Fito Croes has noticed a surprising percentage of owners in reality do not spend a great amount of time personally to use the villas or town homes they purchase, but are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their "home away from home" in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," he remarked, "but I am gratified by how many are buying because they felt secure with real estate investment on Aruba They really study the history and economy of the island and are impressed with the political stability and continually increasing value of prime locations. Gold Coast is in the heart of Malmok, considered Aruba's most exclusive community where the value of properties has only increased over time. It is only minutes to the best beaches and all the action, and yet offers a quiet and secluded getaway, we are very pleased by



the response to our concept."

Fito, with his sister Mayrin and brother Rudy operate Cas Bon, which has been constructing homes and building developments for all budgets for nearly twenty years. "Gold Coast Aruba is the jewel in our crown," observes Fito. "We were very excited about this project and the scope of actual and planned facilities and amenities. We have spoken to countless island visitors to find out what they would really want in a permanent residence on Aruba, and took from there."

Input from frequent vacationers who have dreamed of their own home in Aruba contributed to the realization of Gold Coast Aruba which when complete will be a community of 260 town homes, villas and condominiums with a stunning clubhouse complemented by two additional community pool areas, The Clubhouse is about to start construction and will offer to the community homeowners and visitors 2 tennis courts, full service spa and fitness center as well as a stunning pool area and is expected to be complete by early 2013. It will also house a restaurant and mini-market.

Owners who purchased upon the groundbreaking only a few short years ago, are already enjoying a nearly 50% appreciation on their investment, particularly those taking advantage of the on site management's rental services program. There is always a great demand for Aruba and facili-

ties such as those at Gold Coast, make it easy for some owners to see a valuable return on their investment.

The design of the residences and public areas is open, airy and spacious, taking full advantage of the island environment, with quality construction and finishing available. Partnering with two of Aruba's top providers of kitchens and bathrooms enables developers to offer custom options allowing buyers to individualize their homes. An elegant and chic furniture package is available or island designers will assist owners in finishing the decor to their specific tastes.

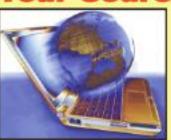
There are many aspects to purchasing property; not the

least is the future value of the investment. To further enhance this, Gold Coast management have inaugurated a number of in-house services and have recently become affiliated Interval International the world's largest network of vacation ownership properties which provides an unlimited international pool of investors to tap for ownership and rental prospects. Property exchange for a vacation in another destination is also available through the Interval International affiliation. Gold Coast's own rental services have also proven highly successful in assisting owners in renting their villas, 24-hour security and maintenance services also tip the scales when it is time to make a decision. Aside from all this, housekeeping, child care, catering services, car rental through its partnership with AVIS car rental are also available as well as pre-shopping services so cupboards and refrigerators are stocked upon arrival, which can also be arranged through their property management department. Personnel are also available to assist in arranging restaurant reservations and island activities.

Visit their website: www. goldcoastaruba.com for more details and availability or call 586-2200 to arrange a personal tour.



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### Cricket: India beat Sri Lanka by one wicket in final



TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, Port-of-Spain: Indian cricket team captain Mahendra Sing Dhoni (L) and teammate Virat Kohli hold their winner trophy at the end of the final match of the Tri-Nation series between India and Sri Lanka at the Queen's Park Oval stadium in Port of Spain on July 11, 2013. India defeated Sri Lanka by 1 wicket to win the series.

## Libertadores Cup - quarterfinals



BELO HORIZONTE (AFP) - Atletico Mineiro players celebrate victory over Newell's Old Boys of Argentina during their Libertadores Cup quarterfinals at Arena Independencia Stadium in Belo Horizonte, Wednesday. Atletico won on penalties and will play the final against Olimpia of Paraguay. Atletico won the match 2-0.

## Football: Rooney suffers hamstring injury, out for month

BANGKOK (AFP) - Manchester United striker Wayne Rooney will be out of action for a month after sustaining a hamstring injury on the club's tour of Asia.

Rooney suffered the problem during a training session on Thursday and when scans showed there was no chance he would be able to play during the tour, the England star was sent home to start his rehabilitation.

The 27-year-old now faces a race against time to recover for the start of United's Premier League title defence.

United are due to compete in the Community Shield against Wigan at Wembley on August 11 and then travel to Swansea for their league opener on August 17.

In between those two fixtures, England manager Roy Hodgson would have hoped to have Rooney available for a high-profile friendly against Scotland at Wembley on August 14.

The United boss had hoped to use the tour to cement his relationship with Rooney, who worked with Moyes at Everton but has reportedly been considering making a formal transfer request following his spell out of favour during Alex Ferguson's final season in charge at Old Trafford.

Moyes has made it clear that Rooney is not for sale but there has still been no word from the player about his intentions.



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## SPORTS

## Yachting: Jury backs teams in 'Ruddergate' protest



SAN FRANCISCO (AFP) Hopes rose that the America's
Cup can at last get down to
real racing after a jury Thursday backed Team New
Zealand and Luna Rossa in
their protest of a design change
imposed by regatta director
Iain Murray.

Murray exceeded his authority when he made wider, heavier rudder wings part of the package of safety rules he issued in May, a fortnight after British sailor Andrew Simpson was killed when the AC72 catamaran of Swedish team Artemis Racing capsized in training on San Francisco Bay.

The change was among 37 safety recommendations made by Murray, but the "Ruddergate" protest was spawned when Team New Zealand and Italy's Luna Rossa argued that

such a change was a performance rather than a safety issue, and gave an unfair advantage to defending America's Cup champions Oracle Team USA.

The five-person jury, appointed by the International Sailing Federation, agreed with the teams that Murray couldn't impose what amounted to a change in the class rules governing design of America's Cup catamarans.

Murray had said last week that if the jury upheld the protests he would inform the US Coast Guard, which issues a permit for the regatta, that he didn't think racing would be safe

On Thursday, however, he sounded a conciliatory note when he said he would be "immediately reaching out to the Coast Guard and the teams" in the wake of the jury decision.



#### Lunch Buffet Saturday - Sunday

12:00 - 3 p.m.

#### Dinner

Monday - Sunday 6:00 - 11:00 p.m

Palm Beach Center - Palm Beach Aruba - Tel: 5860944



## Cycling: On-form Kittel gives Germany further boost

TOURS (AFP) - Marcel Kittel's latest Tour de France stage win on Thursday made it yet another day to remember for German cycling at a time when the sport needs all the help it can get to restore its image in the country.

Kittel edged out British sprint star Mark Cavendish by half a wheel on the line at the end of stage 12 in Tours to record his third stage win on what is just his second Tour de France.

The 25-year-old previously won the crash-marred opening stage in Bastia and then pipped compatriot Andre Greipel on the line to win stage 10 in Saint-Malo on Tuesday.

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With Greipel winning stage six in Montpellier and Tony Martin underlining his time-trialling superiority with his victory at Mont-Saint-Michel on Wednesday, Germany now has five stage wins altogether on this year's Tour, while the hosts have yet to record any.

And yet the country's success comes at a time when the sport's popularity at home is at a low ebb, with the long line of doping scandals involving German riders leading television networks to turn their back on cycling's greatest race.

From Stefan Schumacher's

positive test for the banned blood booster CERA on the 2008 Tour to the recent admission by 1997 Tour winner Jan Ullrich that he had cheated during his career, cycling's name has been dragged through the mud in Germany in recent times.

Thursday's win saw him equal former German sprint star Enk Zabel's best showing of three stage victories in a single Tour, and he could now go one better with more opportunities set to present themselves to the sprinters on Friday and on the last stage on the Champs Elysees.

## MLB Standings

American	ı Le	aç	jue		National League						
East	W	L	Pc	t GB	East	W	L	Po	t GE		
BOSTON	56	37	.602	-	ATLANTA	52	39	.571			
TAMPA	53	40	.570	3.0	WASHINGTON	47	44	.516	5.0		
BALTIMORE	50	42	.543	5.5	PHILADELPHIA	45	47	.489	7.5		
YANKEES	50	42	.543	5.5	NY METS	40	48	.455	10.5		
TORONTO	44	47	.484	11.0	MIAMI	33	57	.367	18.5		
C entral	w	L	Pct	GB	Central	W	L	Pct	GB		
DETROIT	50	41	.549	-	ST. LOUIS	55	34	.618			
CLEVELAND	48	44	.522	2.5	PITTSBURGH	54	36	.600	1.5		
KANSAS	43	46	.483	6.0	CINCINNATI	51	40	.550	5.0		
MINNESOTA	37	52	.416	12.0	CHICAGO	40	49	.449	15.0		
CHICAGO	36	53	.404	13.0	MILWAUKEE	37	53	.411	18.5		
West	w	L	Pct	GB	West	101		Pct	CP		
OAKLAND	54	38	.587	-	Section Control of the Control of th	47	170000	.516	GB		
TEXAS	53	38	.582	0.5	ARIZONA	45		.500	1.5		
LA ANGELES	44	46	.489	9.0	DODGERS	44		.500			
SEATTLE	40	51	.440	13.5	COLORADO	41	51	.446	6.5		
HOUSTON	32	59	.352	21.5	SAN DIEGO SAN FRANCISCO	40		.444			
<b>x</b> -	Cline	:he	d Pla	yoff S	pot; <b>y</b> -Division				· · ·		

## Baseball: Injured Darvish to miss All-Star Game



WASHINGTON (AFP) - A strained shoulder muscle landed Texas Rangers hurler Yu Darvish on the 15-day disabled list on Thursday, and the Japanese star will miss Major League Baseball's All-Star Game

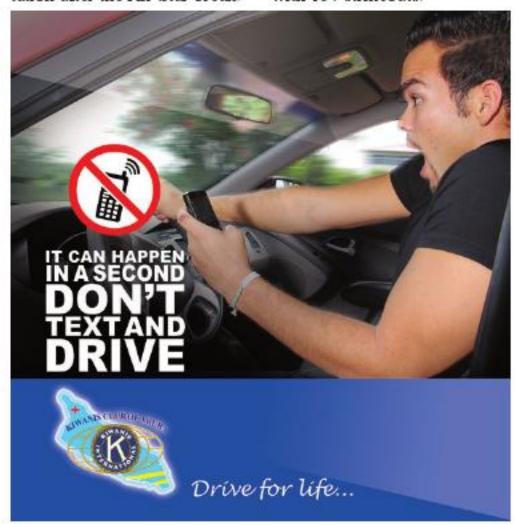
Darvish had been scheduled to pitch yesterday against the Baltimore Orioles, but the Rangers said he had a strained muscle in his right shoulder.

The club hope the injury is the result of fatigue and they can bring him back into the rotation after the All-Star break Darvish pitched on Saturday and felt discomfort in a throwing session on Monday

Even though he won't be able to pitch for the American League in the All-Star Game, he said he still planned to attend the midseason showcase at the New York Mets' Citi Field next Tuesday.

He was elected to the team in the players' vote.

Darvish, in his second season since leaving Japan, is 8-4 with a 3.02 ERA in 18 starts. He leads the American League with 157 strikeouts.



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## Golf: Mickelson sizzles into Jeter's Return, gets Scottish Open contention



CASTLE STUART (AFP) -Four-time Major winning Phil Mickelson warmed-up for a hopeful double Scotland victory celebration with a sizzling six under par 66 on the opening day of the Scottish Open on Thursday.

Mickelson started with a bogey but then eagled the third hole of his round along with adding six birdies and one bogey. It left the current world number eight, who is contesting the Scottish Open for a ninth occasion ahead of next week's British Open at Muirfield, sharing third place and just two shots behind England's John Parry who enjoys the lead after signing for an eight under par 64. England's Simon Khan is in second place with a 65 while Mickelson shares third spot with six others and on a day when there was 33 eagles and 648 birdies.

Mickelson is looking to win for only a second time in Europe after capturing a secondary Challenge Tour event 20 years ago in France.

Parry played in the same • 2007 Walker Cup side as Rory . McIlroy but unlike the Northern Irishman the 26-year-old is looking to win for a second time after a maiden victory two years ago in France.

Last year Parry lost his Tour card but returned to the Tour . School to finish first among the graduates.

His round is just one shot shy of his career best score and comes just a handful of weeks after making his Major debut in the US Open.

"Playing in the US Open was the catalyst for me to start • playing better, and start making . cuts again," he said.

Defending champion, Jeev Milka Singh put aside a nagging right index finger injury to shoot a five under par 67.

And Singh expressed his disappointment in having to miss the premiere in India of the . movie Bhaag Milkha Bhaag on • turn. the life of his father and legendary athlete, Milka Singh.

## injured



League Championship Series against the Detroit Tigers in October. Another small break was discovered in April, and it took until now for him to re-

Then yesterday for the first time this season Jeter wore hisjersey in a major league game.

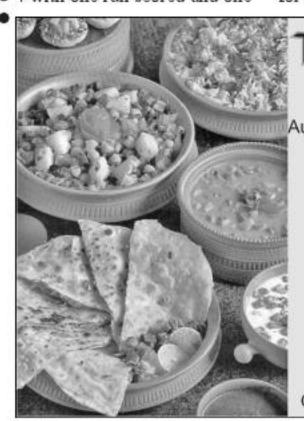
Jeter batted second, as the designated hitter, and was 1 for 4 with one run scored and one

-- Jeter first broke the ankle in run batted in. He hit four Game 1 of the American ground balls, none of which left the infield. But the mood at Yankee Stadium was noticeably light, and the Yankees won, 8-4.

After the game, however, the Yankees said Jeter hurt his quadriceps running to first in his third at-bat and would have a magnetic resonance imaging exam. He said he would wait for the results and was hoping for the best



TOUR de FRANCE (AFP) - The pack rides during the 218 km twelfth stage of the 100th edition of the Tour de France cycling race on Thursday between Fougères and Tours, northwestern France.



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